(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) सरकार द्वारा यह अनुमति कब तक दे दिए जाने की सम्भावना है?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम. वी. चन्द्रशेखर मूर्ति): (क) मानखुर्द-बैलापुर रेल परियोजना की वित्त-व्यवस्था हेतु चालू वित्तीय वर्ष 1994-95 के दौरान बाजार ऋण के माध्यम से 100 करोड़ रुपए की रकम जुटाने के लिए महाराष्ट्र सरकार से कोई प्रस्ताव प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है।

(ख) और (ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Settlement Commission for Income Tax/ Wealth Tax

3667. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Settlement Commission for Income Tax and Wealth Tax is considered to be a quasi judicial body;

(b) if so, what is its composition;

(c) the details of the mode of recruitment of these posts; and

(d) whether Judicial Officers are also given representation on this Commission; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) Yes.

(b) The Income-tax Settlement Commission has a Principal Bench at Delhi and three Additional Benches at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. The Chairman presides over the Principal Bench and the Additional Benches are presided over by Vice-Chairman. Each Bench has in addition two posts of Member.

(c) and (d). Appointments of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the Commission are made in accordance with the provisions of Section 245B (3) of the Income-tax Act which require persons having special knowledge of, and experience in, problems relating to direct taxes and business accounts to be considered for the same. Since only the officers of Indian Revenue Service possess this knowledge and experience, officers belonging to other disciplines are not being considered.

Effect of GATT on Indian Economy

3668. SHRI K. R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hon'ble Finance Minister has said that GATT will benefit the country in the long run as reported in Hindu of 1st August, 1994; and

(b) what will be the long-term benefits, and short term losses to Indian economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) The Finance Minister while addressing a seminar on GATT organised by the National Economic Development Forum in Madras on Sunday the 31st July, 1994 outlined some of the benefits in terms of market access and new export markets accruing from India's signature of the Final Act of the Uruguay Round in the context of appraising its results.

(b) The Uruguay Round results will establish a rule-based multilateral trading system with expanded coverage. This will on the whole be advantageous to us in increasing our exports. There will be increased market access opportunities for Indian goods as a result of lowering of tariff and the phase out of the Multi Fibre Arrangement. The services Agreement would also provide export opportunities. The rules governing the multilateral trading system have been strengthened. Though we will be required to amend our patents regime, there are safeguards in the agreement against the abuse of patent rights by the right holder. The use of price control measures is also not prohibited. We have flexibility to devise our sui generis system of plant variety protection with provisions for farmers and researchers rights. In the area of agriculture, our development and public welfare policies will not be constrained.

अनिवासी भारतीयों को ऋण सुविधाएं

3669. चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह:
श्री कनकसिंह मोहनसिंह मंगरौला:
क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार उन अनिवासी भारतीयों को ऋण सुविधाएं प्रदान करती है जो देश में पूंजी-निवेश करते हैं